

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-16 are pending in the present application. No claims are canceled, amended, or added the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 9-16 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over Claims 9-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,744,369. Accordingly, to overcome that rejection, a terminal disclaimer is enclosed.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 9-16 are allowable.

In addition, the outstanding Office Action includes an objection to the specification. Accordingly, the specification is amended as suggested in the Office action, and therefore it is respectfully requested that objection be withdrawn.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

EHK:ZSS:dnf